

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 046442  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS:ML  
APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GTCHURCHILL  
NEA/ARP:MR LYLE (INFO)  
S/S-O:RGAMBLE

-----030308 121604 /61

R 022210Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA 7107

S E C R E T STATE 046442

EXDIS

FOL RPT KHARTOUM 0534 ACTION SECSTATE 15 FEB 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0534

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MORG, SU  
SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT

REF: STATE 030235

1. FROM POLICY STANDPOINT, GIVEN NIMEIRI REGIME'S  
CURRENT PROFESSIONS OF CONCERN RE POSSIBLE INCREASE IN  
SOVIET INFLUENCE IN RED SEA AREAN I WOULD ASSUME SUDAN  
MIGHT BE WILLING RESPOND POSITIVELY TO COMMITMENT REQUESTED PARA  
9, REFTTEL. HOWEVER, PUBLICITY RE ANY SUCH ACTION WOULD BE ENTIRELY  
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AT VARIANCE WITH THIS GOVERNMENT'S SETTLED NONALIGNED  
POLICY. EVEN IF GOS WOULD AGREE, THEREFORE, BELIEVE  
THEY WOULD EXPECT ANY BAHRAIN PUBLICITY TO BE GENERALIZED  
IN SUCH TERMS AS "OTHER ARAB/AFRICAN AND SOUTH ASIAN  
COUNTRIES IN REGIONS". SHOULD GOS AGREE, MOREOVER, WE  
COULD EXPECT CONSIDERABLE SUDANESE INTEREST IN QUID PRO  
QUO WHICH MIGHT GO BEYOND SUBSTANTIAL PAYMENTS FOR USE

PIER SPACE WHICH ASSUME WOULD BE NO PROBLEM.

2. FORM TECHNICAL STANDPOINT, PORT SUDAN PORT FACILITIES ARE JAMMED. FLAGSHIP COULD NOT HAVE UNINTERRUPTED ACCESS PIER SPACE FOR FOURTJWL CONSECUTIVE DAYS WITHOUT SERIOUSLY COMPLICATING LOCAL CONGESTION AT PORT AND RISKING CRITICISM (WHICH COMMUNISTS MIGHT SEEK STIMULATE) THAT DELAYS IN HANDLING AND TRANSIT CARGO SOMEHOW ATTRIBUTABLE USN VISIT. SITUATION IS SO TIGHT THAT MAJOR EFFORT CURRENTLY UNDER WAY DEVELOP NEW PORT JUST NORTH OF SUAKIN, BUT COMPLETION THIS ADDITIONAL FACILITY OBVIOUSLY YEARS AWAY. IN ADDITION PORT PROBLEMS, FIERCE PORT SUDAN HEAT SEVEN MONTHS OF YEAR AND TOTAL ABSENCE OF NORMAL SOURCES DIVERSION WOULD IMPOSE SPECIAL BURDENS ON USN PERSONNEL. FOR EXAMPLE, DURING PART OF YEAR THERE EVEN SERIOUS LIMITATIONS ON FRESH WATER SUPPLY.

3. VIEW FOREGOING, DO NOT BELIEVE PORT SUDAN SHOULD BE VISITED MORE THAN ONCE ANNUALLY AND THAT VISIT SHOULD OCCUR DURING NOVEMBER/APRIL PERIOD. WOULD BE PREPARED SEEK GOS COMMITMENT ON THAT BASIS BUT SUDANESE APPROVAL WOULD BE FACILITATED IF THEY COULD BE INFORMED PRIVATELY THAT SAUDI ARABIA, MUSCAT AND NUMBER AFRICAN AND SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES ALSO BEING APPROACHED. BREWER

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PORT FACILITIES, NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE046442  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JEBURGESS:ML  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 30235  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3226575  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT  
**TAGS:** MORG, SU, US  
**To:** MANAMA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/dfbfd7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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